



EUROPEAN UNION

EN

Brussels, 21 March 2011

8010/3/11 REV 3

PRESSE 76

Declaration by the High Representative, Catherine Ashton, on behalf of the EU on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 21 March 2011

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the 2001 World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa. EU remains fully committed to the principal objective of the 2001 Durban Conference.

The European Union condemns all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and similar types of intolerance, including discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, which are totally at odds with the values the EU is founded upon.

People across the world face this kind of intolerance every day. We can only fight it successfully if we take a consistently tough stance at all levels. There is no room for complacency, including in Europe.

The EU also mainstreams the fight against discrimination in its international cooperation. Through its European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, the EU supports a wide range of civil society organizations in some 120 recent projects, for a total of approximately 24 million euro.

The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) is the universal foundation for efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate racism. The European Union calls on all states that have not yet ratified or fully implemented the Convention to do so.

P R E S S

Rue de la Loi 175 B – 1048 BRUSSELS Tel.: +32 (0)2 281 6319 Fax: +32 (0)2 281 8026
press.office@consilium.europa.eu <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/Newsroom>

8010/3/11 REV 3

1

EN

The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia*, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro* and Iceland⁺, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, and the EFTA country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia align themselves with this declaration

* Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

⁺ Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area."
